Wednesday, June 16, 2021
8:00 PM

Dear Gurwin Residents and Family Members:

As you know, we are required by the NY State Department of Health (DOH) to inform you any time we have a new positive case of COVID-19 among our staff or residents, and to provide weekly updates on the incidence of the COVID-19 virus in our facility and our cumulative numbers associated with the pandemic since its inception.

We are writing today to inform you of a positive test result for one of our residents who is fully vaccinated. This serves as a reminder that, although the vaccination does decrease the likelihood that someone will test positive for COVID-19, it is not 100% effective in preventing infection. Vaccination is to prevent severe illness and death should one contract the disease and to further herd immunity. The resident is asymptomatic and was found through our regular surveillance testing, as required by the DOH.

Unfortunately, due to this most recent positive result, regular indoor visitation will remain paused until further notice. However, visitation can now be offered on any non-quarantine unit, per the new DOH Directive that we alerted you to in our last enewsletter update regarding Designated Personal Caregiver (PC) Visitors.

1. For units not on quarantine, up to two (2) designated PC visitors -- per timeslot -- may visit their loved ones at any time during our expanded visiting hour timeslots starting this weekend, provided they have registered through SignUp Genius:

   - Saturday and Sunday --
     - 12 PM - 4 PM
     - 5 PM - 9 PM
   - Monday thru Wednesday
     - 9 AM -11 AM
     - 12 PM - 4 PM
     - 5 PM - 9 PM

All visits that are already registered through SignUp Genius for this coming weekend and through next Wednesday will be converted to the newly expanded visitation time slots for Designated PC visitors only.

Reminder: Designated Personal Caregivers (PC) are individuals who have been added to a new "designated visitor" list by either the resident or their representative, per new NYS DOH guidelines which grant permission to indoor visitation when regular indoor visitation is on pause due to a positive COVID-19 test result among our staff or residents.

Only designated PC visitors will be permitted access to residents in their rooms - regardless of visitation status. This does not extend to units on
transmission-based precautions which will be restricted from visitation until quarantine is lifted. Currently, 4 North and 4 South are on quarantine until June 23rd, and 3 South until June 29th, pending test results. All other units may receive scheduled PC visits at this time.

**Designated PC Visitor Recap:**
- Visitation for designated PC visitors on non-quarantine units will continue until full visitation opens for the facility.
- Each resident will be allowed unlimited PC visits per week during the designated timeslots.
- All visitors will adhere to infection control practices including mask wearing, hand washing before and after visiting and 6 feet social distancing.
- Visits will take place in the resident's room, or in the courtyard -- no other areas in the building, including neighboring resident rooms.

*As a reminder, any visitor between the ages of 12-18 must be accompanied by an adult, and no pets permitted at this time.

(Questions about Designated PC visitor status? Please contact Social Work at 631-715-2572.)

**Weekly Cumulative Statistics for COVID-19**

Residents who test positive are moved to our COVID-19 isolation unit, and cared for there for a minimum of 14 days, until a negative clinical test result is received. Currently, we have two residents who are COVID-19 positive in our dedicated isolation unit. Since the pandemic began, we have celebrated well more than 250 recoveries; sadly, we mourn 67 residents who were lost to the virus.

Since March 2020, 283 staff members have tested positive for the virus. Most staff members who test positive are asymptomatic and found through our weekly surveillance testing protocols. Regardless, any staff member testing positive is required to quarantine at home for 14 days, and may only return to work after receiving a negative clinical test result. More than 62% of our staff is now vaccinated against COVID-19, and we continue to vaccinate in-house as new staff members are ready or as new residents are admitted. Our resident vaccination rate is more than 90%.

Please be assured you will be promptly notified by phone if your loved one is identified as a suspected or positive case of COVID-19, is on a floor which is quarantined, or has any other significant change in condition. Past Family and Resident Updates enewletters can be accessed on our website at [www.gurwin.org/family-updates/](http://www.gurwin.org/family-updates/).

We appreciate your support as we continue to navigate these challenging times. We look forward to seeing you soon!

The Gurwin Care Team

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Get the Accushield Fast Track Visitation Entrance Pass -- [Click Here to Learn More.](#)

Schedule a visit with your loved one. Go to [bit.ly/GurwinVisits](http://bit.ly/GurwinVisits) to sign up.

Before you visit, check for daily visitation updates at (631) 715-2200.

Want to get vaccinated? Our in-house pharmacy is now providing vaccinations to resident and staff family members who are interested. Sign up at [bit.ly/GurwinVaccineClinic](http://bit.ly/GurwinVaccineClinic), or email CovidVaccine@gurwin.org for more
information. We are currently offering the Moderna vaccine and the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Video Chat with your loved one: email videochat@gurwin.org. (Limit one per family per week, quarantine units only.)

Send your loved one a Gurwin Gram Gram. Send a short video to us via Facebook Messenger or by email to info@gurwin.org, and we'll deliver your good wishes.


Gurwin Healthcare System
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